Nearly 50,000 fires in the U.S. are caused by electrical failures or malfunctions annually, resulting in more than 400 deaths, 1,500 injuries and $1.4 billion in property damage. Help lower your risk of electrical fires. Here’s how.

**DON’T OVERLOAD YOUR HOME**

- Flickering, blinking, or dimming lights
- Cracking, sizzling, or buzzing from receptacles
- Frequently tripped circuit breakers or blown fuses
- Warm or discolored wall plates
- Burning odor coming from receptacles or wall switches
- Mild shock or tingle from appliances, receptacles, or switches

**OVERLOADED WARNING SIGNS**

**PREVENT OVERLOADS**

- Never use extension cords or multi-outlet converters for appliances
- Only plug one heat producing appliance into a receptacle outlet at a time
- If you have too few outlets in your home, have a qualified electrician inspect your home and add new outlets
- Power strips only add additional outlets; they do not change the amount of power being received from the outlet
- Use appropriate watt bulbs for lighting fixtures

**PRACTICE ELECTRICAL SAFETY:**

Share this infographic with your customers. Email News@PublicPower.org to request a copy or visit PublicPower.org>News>Public Power Magazine to find the digital edition.

This infographic was produced with content from Electrical Safety Foundation International.